Amendment to Claims:

1. (currently amended): A process for producing a dried carboxylic acid cake, said process comprising:

(a) oxidizing in an oxidation zone an aromatic feedstock to produce a carboxylic acid slurry;

(b) removing in a liquor exchange zone impurities from said carboxylic acid slurry to form a water-wet carboxylic acid cake, a mother liquor stream, a solvent mother liquor stream, and a solvent/water byproduct liquor stream; wherein at least one solvent is, added counter current to the flow of said carboxylic acid slurry; wherein said liquor exchange zone comprises one solid-liquid separation device capable of performing the removal of said impurities from said carboxylic acid slurry and producing said water-wet carboxylic acid cake from said carboxylic acid slurry; wherein said solvent comprises acetic acid, and

(c) drying said water-wet carboxylic acid cake in a drying zone to form said dried carboxylic acid cake; <u>wherein said water-wet cake maintains the form of a cake between step (b) and (c)</u>.

2. (original): The process according to claim 1 wherein said liquor exchange zone comprises from about 2 to about 4 stages of water or solvent counter current washes.

3. (original): The process according to claim 1 wherein said solvent and said water is added counter current to the flow of said carboxylic acid slurry.

4. (original): A process according to claim 1 wherein said carboxylic acid is selected from a group consisting of terephthalic acid, isophthalic acid, naphthalene dicarboxylic acid, trimellitic acid, and mixtures thereof.

5. (original): A process according to claim 1 wherein said carboxylic acid is terephthalic acid.

6. (original): A process according to claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein said drying zone evaporates at least 10% of volatiles in said water-wet carboxylic acid cake.

7. (previously presented): A process according to claim 1 wherein said crude carboxylic acid slurry comprising terephthalic acid, catalyst, acetic acid, and impurities is withdrawn at a temperature between about 110°C to about 200°C from said oxidation zone; wherein said catalyst comprises cobalt, manganese and bromine compounds.

8. (currently amended): A process for producing a dried carboxylic acid cake, said process comprising:

(a) oxidizing in an oxidation zone an aromatic feedstock to produce a carboxylic acid slurry;

(b) removing in a solvent liquor exchange zone impurities from said carboxylic acid slurry to form a carboxylic acid cake with solvent, a mother liquor stream, and a solvent mother liquor stream; wherein said solvent comprises acetic acid;

(c) adding water in a counter current water wash zone to said carboxylic cake with solvent to produce a water-wet carboxylic acid cake and a solvent/water byproduct liquor stream; and

(d) drying said water-wet carboxylic acid cake in a drying zone to form said dried carboxylic acid cake <u>wherein said water-wet cake maintains the form of a cake between step (c) and (d)</u>.

9. (original): A process according to claim 8 wherein said carboxylic acid is selected from a group consisting of terephthalic acid, isophthalic acid, naphthalene dicarboxylic acid, trimellitic acid,and mixtures thereof.

10. (original): A process according to claim 8 wherein said carboxylic acid is terephthalic acid.

11. (original): A process according to claim 8 or 9 wherein said drying zone evaporates at least 10% of volatiles in said water-wet carboxylic acid cake.

12. (previously presented): A process according to claim 8 wherein said crude carboxylic acid slurry comprising terephthalic acid, catalyst, acetic acid, and impurities is withdrawn at a temperature between about 110°C to about 200°C from ~~an~~ said oxidation zone; wherein said catalyst comprises cobalt, manganese and bromine compounds.

13. (currently amended): A process for producing a dried carboxylic acid cake, said process comprising the following steps in the order named:

(a) oxidizing in an oxidation zone an aromatic feedstock to produce a carboxylic acid slurry;

(b) removing in a solid-liquid separation zone impurities from said carboxylic acid slurry to form a slurry or cake product and a mother liquor stream;

(c) removing in a counter current solvent-water liquor exchange zone impurities from said slurry or cake product to form a water-wet carboxylic acid cake, a solvent mother liquor stream, and a solvent/water byproduct liquor stream; wherein said counter current solvent-water liquor exchange zone comprises one solid-liquid separation device; wherein said solvent comprises acetic acid; and

(d) drying said water-wet carboxylic acid cake in a drying zone to form said dried carboxylic acid cake wherein said water-wet cake maintains the form of a cake between step (c) and (d).

14. (original): A process according to claim 13 wherein said carboxylic acid is selected from a group consisting of terephthalic acid, isophthalic acid, naphthalene dicarboxylic acid, trimellitic acid and mixtures thereof.

15. (original): A process according to claim 13 wherein said carboxylic acid is terephthalic acid.

16. (previously presented): A process according to claim 13 wherein said crude carboxylic acid slurry comprising terephthalic acid, catalyst, acetic acid, and impurities is withdrawn at a temperature between about 110°C to about 200°C from said oxidation zone; and wherein said catalyst comprises cobalt, manganese and bromine compounds.

17. (original): A process according to claim 13 or 14 wherein said drying zone evaporates at least 10% of volatiles in said water-wet carboxylic acid cake.

18. (currently amended): A process for producing a dried carboxylic acid cake, said process comprising the following steps in the order named:

(a) removing a solvent from a slurry or cake product in a counter current solvent-water liquor exchange zone; wherein a portion of the solvent in said slurry or cake product is replaced with water to form a water-wet carboxylic acid cake; wherein said counter current solvent-water liquor exchange zone comprises one solid-liquid separation device; wherein said solvent comprises acetic acid; and

(b) drying said water-wet carboxylic acid cake in a drying zone to form said dried carboxylic acid cake <u>wherein said water-wet cake maintains the form of a cake between step (a) and (b)</u>.

19. (original): A process according to claim 18 wherein said carboxylic acid is selected from a group consisting of terephthalic acid, isophthalic acid, naphthalene dicarboxylic acid, trimellitic and mixtures thereof.

20. (original): A process according to claim 18 wherein said carboxylic acid is terephthalic acid.

21. (previously presented): A process according to claim 19 wherein said crude carboxylic acid slurry comprising terephthalic acid, catalyst, acetic acid, and impurities is withdrawn at a temperature between about 110°C to about 200°C from said oxidation zone; and wherein said catalyst comprises cobalt, manganese and bromine compounds.

22. (original): A process according to claim 18 or 19 wherein said drying zone evaporates at least 10% of volatiles in said water-wet carboxylic acid cake.

23-47. (canceled)